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POLISH AND HUNGARIAN DEMOCRACY INITIATIVE OF 1989

OCTOBER 16, 1989.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. ANDERSON, from the Committee on Public Works and Transportation, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 3402]

The Committee on Public Works and Transportation, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 3402) to promote political and economic democracy in Poland and Hungary as those countries develop and implement programs of comprehensive economic reform, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendments are stated as amendments to the bill as reported by the Committee on Foreign Affairs and are as follows:

In subsection (d) of section 502—

(1) strike "Environmental Protection Agency" and insert "Department of State"; and

(2) add the following new sentence at the end thereof:

Any funds appropriated to the Department of State pursuant to this subsection shall be transferred to the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out the purposes of this section.

INTRODUCTION

H.R. 3402 was introduced in the House of Representatives on October 4, 1989, to promote political and economic democracy in Poland and Hungary as those countries develop and implement programs of comprehensive economic reform. The bill was jointly referred to the House Committees on Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs, Foreign Affairs, and Ways and Means. The bill was sequentially referred to the Committee on Public Works and Transportation on October 16, 1989, for a period ending October 17, 1989.

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ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee on Public Works and Transportation considered H.R. 3402 at a meeting on October 12, 1989 and adopted an amendment to section 502, Environmental Initiatives for Poland and Hungary. Pursuant to two unanimous consent requests, the Committee considered and approved the amendment, to be filed when the bill was sequentially referred to the Committee, and authorized the Chairman to report to the House the amendment upon referral of the bill to the Committee on Public Works and Transportation.

Section 502 of H.R. 3402, as amended by the Committee on Foreign Affairs, provides for various environmental initiatives for Poland and Hungary. In Poland, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency is to cooperate with Polish officials and experts to establish an air quality monitoring network and a program to improve water quality and the availability of drinking water in the Krakow metropolitan area. In Hungary, the Administrator is to work with United States and Hungarian officials to establish and support a regional center in Budapest for facilitating cooperative environmental activities between governmental experts and public and private organizations from the United States and Europe. The section authorizes appropriations to the Environmental Protection Agency of $10 million for the three year period beginning October 1, 1989, to fund these activities.

The amendment adopted by the Committee strikes "Environmental Protection Agency" in the authorization of appropriations subsection and inserts in lieu thereof the "Department of State." The amendment adds a sentence at the end of that section providing that any funds appropriated to the Department of State pursuant to the subsection are to be transferred to the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out the purposes of the section.

The Committee made these changes because of concerns about limited Federal funds being used to support environmental activities in foreign nations. The United States faces enormous environmental needs such as clean water, toxic waste, groundwater contamination, and clean air. The Committee believes it is not appropriate to use funds appropriated to EPA to support environmental activities in foreign nations because this could lead to a reduction in funds available for domestic programs. While the Committee supports promoting political and economic democracy in Poland and Hungary, it believes that such activities should be funded through normal foreign assistance accounts.

COMPLIANCE WITH CLAUSE 2(l) OF RULE XI OF THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

(1) With reference to clause 2(l)(3)(A) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight has not made findings and recommendations on the subject matter of the legislation.

(2) With reference to clause 2(l)(3)(B) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, H.R. 3402, as reported, does not provide new budget authority, new spending authority, new credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures,

accordingly, a statement pursuant to section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act is not required.

(3) With reference to clause 2(l)(3)(C) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee has not received the report on H.R. 3402 prepared by the Congressional Budget Office under section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act.

(4) With reference to clause 2(l)(3)(D) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee does not have oversight findings and recommendations from the Committee on Government Operations on H.R. 3402.

(5) With reference to clause 2(l)(4) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following information is provided: The effect of carrying out H.R. 3402, as reported, should be minimal with respect to inflationary impacts on prices and costs and the operation of the National economy.

Cost of Legislation

Clause 7(a) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires a statement of the estimated costs of the United States which would be incurred in carrying out H.R. 3402, as reported, in fiscal year 1990, and each of the following five years or the authorized duration if less than five years. The amendments adopted by the Committee on Public Works and Transportation would cause no change in the cost of the bill as reported by the Committee on Foreign Affairs. (See the cost estimate to accompany H.R. 3402, as reported by the Committee on Foreign Affairs.)

Committee Action and Vote

The Committee, in compliance with rule XI(2)(l)(2)(A) of the Rules of the House of Representatives, reports favorably the bill, H.R. 3402, as amended. The Committee ordered the bill reported by voice vote.

Changes in Existing Law Made by the Bill, as Reported

The bill was referred to this Committee for consideration of such provisions of the amendment reported by the Committee on Foreign Affairs, on October 16, 1989, as fall within the jurisdiction of this Committee pursuant to clause 1(p) of Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The changes made to existing law by the amendment reported by the Committee on Foreign Affairs are shown in the report filed by that Committee.

No changes were made to existing law by the amendments reported by the Committee on Public Works and Transportation.

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